

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia  
SUBJECT Autumn Sowing of Wheat in Croatia

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1. Although 15 November 1950 had been set as the day for the completion of wheat sowing in Croatia, only 58.6 percent of the sowing program had been completed on 11 November. The reasons were:
  - a. Lack of rain.
  - b. Incompetence and dishonesty of sowing commissions and local authorities.
  - c. Shortage of seed.
  - d. Lack of cooperation on the part of many peasants and State agricultural cooperatives.
2. The following incidents are examples of the difficulties encountered in the wheat sowing program:
  - a. In the Koprivnica district the Sowing Commission itself sabotaged the sowing program. The Director of the Commission had submitted reports to the effect that the sowing program had been executed in full. When the Control Commission visited the district, however, it discovered that only eight percent of the program had been executed. A similar situation occurred in the Sisak area.
  - b. At Babina Greda, the local peasants, working with the local People's Committee and the Sowing Commission representative, secured seed from the People's Committee which they milled, sold on the black market and then shared the proceeds with the People's Committee.
  - c. At Otocac, the People's Committee refused to supply the local State cooperative farms with seed because they were in debt to the District Agricultural Cooperative Association.
  - d. A very serious seed shortage exists because the Grain Levy Commissions, composed for the most part of politically reliable but technically incompetent individuals, carried out their orders to collect grain from the peasants and agricultural cooperatives so ruthlessly that very little was left for seed.

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- e. At Bijeli Monastir, the Naprijed agricultural cooperative had only sown 80 of the required 180 hectares. The head of the cooperative, Ferdinand Kloc, was accused of sabotage and sentenced to several years imprisonment.
- f. The agricultural cooperative at Nasice asked the District People's Committee for seed, which it received, and which it, for the most part, ground into flour for sale on the black market.
- g. By 11 November, the agricultural cooperative farms, Sloboda and Milan Zirkovic, had carried out 26 and 24 percent respectively, of their sowing program.

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